

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Chernajovsky *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/756,283

Filed: January 9, 2001

For: **Latent Fusion Protein**



Confirmation No. 5963

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: Liping Chen

Atty. Docket: 0623.1000000/LBB/PAJ

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Reply To Restriction Requirement

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated June 5, 2002, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-5, 18 and 22. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to non-elected inventions.

Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of

time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: July 3, 2002

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